

Claims:

1. A binding compound having the binding characteristics of the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line deposited under ATCC
5 Accession No. PTA-4957.

2. The binding compound of claim 1, which is an antibody or antibody fragment.

10 3. An antigen binding fragment of a monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line deposited under ATCC Accession No. PTA-4957.

4. The monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line deposited under ATCC Accession No. PTA-4957.

15 5. The hybridoma cell line deposited under ATCC Accession No. PTA-4957.

20 6. A method for purifying plasmacytoid dendritic cells from a sample containing said plasmacytoid dendritic cells, said method comprising the steps of contacting said sample with the binding compound of claim 1 and then recovering plasmacytoid dendritic cells which have bound to said binding compound.

25 7. A method for identifying plasmacytoid dendritic cells from a sample containing said plasmacytoid dendritic cells, said process comprising the steps of contacting said sample with the binding compound of claim 1 to form an antibody/plasmacytoid dendritic cells complex; and detecting the presence of said complex.